

Charleston S. C. 5 July 1882

Prof. Asa Gray, Cambridge Mass
My dear Sir

I got a few moments to spare a week or two ago to hunt up Elliott's Herbarium, and after some trouble in opening locks and doors that had not been opened for years, I got access to it. My vacation which began day before yesterday, gives me some leisure to make my report, and it is not a long one: there is not an *Atter ora Solidago* in the volumes or pasteboard cases! There are other packages or volumes in his Collection, foreign plants from Lindley &c, results of his herborization in our Mountains not determined &c &c; but all of these I went over some years ago, as I think I told you, and found none of the missing *Compositae*. I

therefore cannot find Aster exilis for you

What became of these missing specimens and perhaps others with them, I cannot tell. I can only suppose that they were not distributed after you returned them, that being in packages apparently not belonging to Elliott's Herbarium, they were kept apart, with Dr. Bachman's Herb. (which was tolerably large,) and sent with that Herb. to Columbia, and with it were destroyed in the fire of Feb. 1865.

When you returned the specimens borrowed, did you ever get an acknowledgement of their receipt?

Very truly yours
Lorris R. Gibbs.